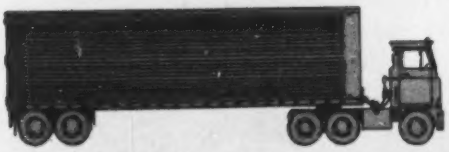

# MONTHLY TRUCK TONNAGE REPORT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM STATISTICAL ANALYSIS DEPARTMENT
AMERICAN TRUCKING ASSOCIATIONS 2200 MILL ROAD ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314-4677 (703) 838-1791

## TONNAGE INDEX INCREASES IN OCTOBER

General freight carrier tonnage increased 4 points in October 1989 from September, 1989 according to the ATA Truck Tonnage Index. At a level of 168.3(p) with 1967 = 100, the October tonnage is 2.4% above September's 164.3(r). The current month's volume is 10 points (5.6 percent) below the tonnage level in October 1988.

The actual tons reported by motor carriers in the ATA survey increased from 3.6 million tons in September to 3.8 million tons in October 1989. Actual tons increased 4.8%. Adjustments for variations due to seasonality and the number of working (trading) days increased the October index level to 168.3(p).

From September, 1989, to October, 1989, Industrial Production index decreased 0.7% compared to the adjusted general freight tonnage index increase of 2.4%.

These findings were announced today by the American Trucking Associations. (ATA) Statistical Analysis Department. The monthly truck tonnage index is based on a survey of the companywide operations of Class I and II motor carriers of general freight. Index coverage represents in excess of one-half of the tonnage moved by this type of for-hire motor carriers of property subject to Interstate Commerce Commission regulation.

Month-to-month data are compiled using a chain link which, in turn, has been adjusted to remove the normal seasonal influence and variations due to differing numbers of business (trading) days each month.

The current and historic index numbers are shown on the reverse side, along with several other major business indicator series. A "three-month moving average" adjusted truck tonnage index has also been compiled which aids in smoothing out short term non-significant movements in the series.

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p - preliminary r - revised f - final

## INDEXES AND COMPARISONS THROUGH OCTOBER 1989

1967 = 100

| | OCT 1989 | SEPT 1989 | AUG 1989 | OCT 1988 | Monthly % Change 9/89 / 8/89 | Monthly % Change 10/89 / 9/89 | Yearly % Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tonnage Index (adjusted)[1] | 168.3p | 164.3r | 169.0f | 178.3f | - 2.8 | + 2.4 | - 5.6 |
| Tonnage Index (unadjusted) | 181.6p | 173.3r | 175.1f | 188.4f | - 1.0 | + 4.8 | - 3.6 |
| Industrial Production Index[2,5] (total) | 141.4 | 142.4 | 142.4 | 139.3 | NC | - 0.7 | + 1.5 |
| Manufacturers (total) | 147.6 | 148.8 | 149.1 | 145.3 | - 0.2 | - 0.8 | + 1.6 |
| Non-durable | 151.0 | 150.8 | 150.9 | 146.6 | - 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 3.0 |
| Durable | 145.1 | 147.3 | 147.7 | 144.4 | - 0.3 | - 1.5 | + 0.5 |
| Producer Price Index[3] (unadjusted) | 112.7 | 112.3 | 112.0 | 108.2 | + 0.3 | + 0.4 | + 4.2 |
| Consumer Price Index[4] (unadjusted) | 125.6 | 125.0 | 124.6 | 120.2 | + 0.3 | + 0.5 | + 4.5 |
| Tonnage Reported by 76 Carriers in OCTOBER 1989 (000 tons) | 3,812 | 3,638 | n.a. | 3,751 | n.a. | + 4.8 | + 1.6 |

p - preliminary  r - revised  f - final  n.a. - not applicable

1 - Adjusted seasonally & for trading days
2 - Seasonally adjusted
3 - Finished goods (formerly Wholesale Price Index) 1982 = 100
4 - Goods and services 1982 high 1984 = 100
5 - 1977=100

* The OCTOBER 1988 tonnage figure is taken from current reports received from carriers (OCTOBER 1989) and bears no relationship to the tonnage indices shown above.

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ADJUSTED MONTHLY TRUCK INDEX -- HISTORICAL -- 1967 = 100

| | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January | 144.0 | 140.8 | 138.6 | 154.4 | 175.3 | 177.6 |
| February | 141.8 | 138.2 | 141.4 | 159.3 | 171.9 | 169.2 |
| March | 144.2 | 139.0 | 139.5 | 160.6 | 175.2 | 166.7 |
| April | 145.5 | 137.9 | 144.4 | 157.5 | 175.5 | 172.2 |
| May | 144.7 | 138.5 | 143.9 | 159.3 | 179.6 | 172.7 |
| June | 145.1 | 134.8 | 144.0 | 163.0 | 184.7 | 172.5 |
| July | 143.5 | 132.0 | 152.2 | 161.7 | 172.7 | 158.6 |
| August | 145.2 | 135.0 | 153.4 | 164.0 | 178.6 | 169.0 |
| September | 140.7 | 134.7 | 154.9 | 167.8 | 178.5 | 164.3r |
| October | 143.4 | 135.8 | 155.1 | 170.2 | 178.3 | 168.3p |
| November | 144.4 | 137.5 | 153.0 | 173.4 | 178.1 | |
| December | 143.3 | 135.8 | 154.6 | 174.6 | 178.3 | |

* all data are final unless otherwise noted.

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Three Month Moving Average of Adjusted Truck Tonnage Index for Recent Months

| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1987 | 156.1 | 158.1 | 159.1 | 159.1 | 159.9 | 161.3 | 162.9 | 164.5 | 167.3 | 170.5 | 172.7 | 174.4 |
| 1988 | 173.9 | 174.1 | 174.2 | 176.8 | 179.9 | 179.0 | 178.7 | 176.6 | 178.5 | 178.2 | 178.2 | 178.0 |
| 1989 | 175.0 | 171.2 | 169.4 | 170.5 | 172.5 | 167.9 | 166.7 | 164.0r | 167.2p | | | |

The moving average aids in smoothing out less significant monthly variations.